

## **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**BA- 588**

**Robert Stirling House**

**19709 Old York Road**

**White Hall, Baltimore County**

**1780 ca.**

**Private**

The crossroads community known as Shane, near which the log portion of the Robert Stirling House was constructed circa 1780, was sited at the intersection of Graystone Road and Old York Road. The dwelling dates to the earliest period of settlement in this portion of the Seventh District. This small community dates to the mid-18th century as the land grant "Sutton's Delight." The tavern sited on the northwest corner of the intersection, extant through the mid-1800s, was known as "Sutton's." In the late 1700s, the property on which the Robert Stirling House was located belonged to Benjamin Shipley. It is possible that Shipley erected the log portion of the house. By the mid-19th century, the property came into the possession of the Stirling family, who were most likely the builders of the two-and-a-half-story Federal style addition to the log house. Robert Stirling's name appears next to the house depicted on the 1850 and 1877 maps. It appears as though the community received its name during this period, for prior documentation suggests that the local postmaster, Arthur Shane lent his name to the crossroads village. By the late 1890s, John Stirling occupied the dwelling before the 1915 county atlas indicated that H.A. Wilson was the resident.

The original circa 1780 log portion of the dwelling is two-and-a-half-stories tall, clad in vinyl siding and features an asphalt-shingled side gable roof, five 1/1 vinyl windows with vinyl surrounds and sills and a one-story Colonial Revival style porch with a shed roof supported by Tuscan columns. Circa 1830, a taller two-and-a-half-story, three-bay-wide addition was constructed on the side of the log house. This three-bay-wide main block features solid brick construction with a five-course American bond structural system with a stretcher bond façade (northeast elevation). The main block is pierced by a side entry with a sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door with a multi-light leaded fanlight, square-edged wood surround, stylized pilasters and hood molding below a rowlock round arch. Five 1/1 windows with square-edged wood surrounds, sills, and lintels all pierce the façade of the main block. The first story openings are sheltered by a porch identical to that of the log house. Two gabled dormers clad in vinyl siding with 1/1 windows with square-edged wood surrounds and sills project from the asphalt-shingled side gable roof. One stretcher bond exterior chimney with a corbeled cap bisects the gable ends of the main block, while one reconstructed stretcher bond interior chimney rises from the opposite gable end. The log wing features an interior gable end stretcher bond chimney with a corbeled cap. Two historic outbuildings, an historic foundation and two non-historic structures are located to the southwest of the dwelling.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA 588

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Robert Stirling House

other

### 2. Location

street and number 19709 Old York Road not for publication

city, town White Hall vicinity

county Baltimore County

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Roland W. and Marian L. Roth

street and number 19709 Old York Road telephone Not Available

city, town White Hall state MD zip code 21161

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 13065 folio 652

city, town Towson tax map 13 tax parcel 160 tax ID number 1700013371

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

| Category  | Ownership                                   | Current Function                             | Resource Count                      |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public             | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture         | Contributing                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade      | Noncontributing                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both               | <input type="checkbox"/> defense             | <input type="checkbox"/> buildings  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic | <input type="checkbox"/> sites      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 |   | <input type="checkbox"/> education           | <input type="checkbox"/> structures |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> funerary            | <input type="checkbox"/> objects    |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> government          | <input type="checkbox"/> Total      |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> health care         |                                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> industry            |                                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape           |                                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture  |                                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> religion            |                                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> social              |                                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation      |                                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress    |                                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> unknown             |                                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use   |                                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other:              |                                     |

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

1

## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA- 588

### Condition

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> altered      |

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The original portion of the Robert Stirling House is a two-and-a-half-story log log structure that was constructed circa 1780. This portion of the building is clad in vinyl siding and features an asphalt-shingled side gable roof, five 1/1 vinyl windows with vinyl surrounds and sills and a one-story Colonial Revival style porch with a shed roof supported by Tuscan columns. Circa 1830, a taller two-and-a-half-story, three-bay-wide Federal style addition was constructed on the side of the log house, relegating the older structure to the status of a wing. The three-bay-wide main block features solid brick construction with a five-course American bond structural system with a stretcher bond façade (northeast elevation). The main block is pierced by a side entry with a sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door with a multi-light leaded fanlight, square-edged wood surround, stylized pilasters and hood molding below a rowlock round arch. Five 1/1 windows with square-edged wood surrounds, sills, and lintels all pierce the façade of the main block. The first story openings are sheltered by a Colonial Revival style three-bay-wide porch identical to that of the log house. Two gabled dormers clad in vinyl siding with 1/1 windows with square-edged wood surrounds and sills project from the asphalt-shingled side gable roof. One stretcher bond exterior chimney with a corbeled cap bisects the gable ends of the main block, while one reconstructed stretcher bond interior chimney rises from the opposite gable end. The log wing features an interior gable end stretcher bond chimney with a corbeled cap. Projecting from the rear of the log wing and the brick main block is a one-and-a-half-story random rubble stone kitchen ell, the date of which could not be established at the time of the exterior survey. One reconstructed stretcher bond brick chimney with a corbeled cap rises from the gable end of the ell. A circa 1990 one-story, vinyl-clad enclosed porch wraps around two sides of the kitchen ell.

Two historic outbuildings and an historic foundation are located to the southwest of the dwelling. A single wall of random rubble stone construction comprises the circa 1800 foundation ruin.

The circa 1900 barn, which has been converted into a garage, is a one-and-a-half-story wood frame building with vinyl siding, a solid random rubble stone foundation, and a front gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. One sash-and-paneled roll-up door and one single-leaf metal door pierce the façade. A sash-and-paneled roll-up door also pierces a shed addition on the side of the structure. A small cupola rises from the center of the roof ridge.

The large gambrel-roofed dairy barn dates to circa 1940 and features a concrete block first story with a wood frame second story clad in corrugated sheet metal in the gambrel end. A circa 1940 silo is located behind the barn.

Two non-historic structures are also located on the property. The circa 1990 prefabricated gazebo features wood frame construction with a wood block foundation and a conical roof clad in asphalt shingles. The circa 1995 prefabricated shed features a pressed-vertical-board-clad wood frame structural system, an asphalt-shingled gambrel roof, and a pressed-vertical-board double-leaf wood door.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA- 588

| Period  | Areas of Significance                            | Check and justify below                               |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> economics                    | <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine        | <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts     |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology              | <input type="checkbox"/> education                    | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy          |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering                  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/<br>recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion            |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000-                | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage              | <input type="checkbox"/> law                    | <input type="checkbox"/> science             |  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/<br>settlement   | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> social history      |  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning      |   | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime history       | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation      |  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation            |   | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> other:              |  |

**Specific dates** 1780 ca.-present **Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Construction dates** 1780 ca., 1830 ca., 1990 ca.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The crossroads community known as Shane, near which the log portion of the Robert Stirling House was constructed circa 1780, was sited at the intersection of Graystone Road and Old York Road. The dwelling dates to the earliest period of settlement in this portion of the Seventh District. This small community dates to the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century as the land grant "Sutton's Delight." The tavern sited on the northwest corner of the intersection, extant through the mid-1800s, was known as "Sutton's."<sup>1</sup> In the late 1700s, the property on which the Robert Stirling House was located belonged to Benjamin Shipley.<sup>2</sup> It is possible that Shipley erected the log portion of the house. By the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the property came into the possession of the Stirling family, who were most likely the builders of the two-and-a-half-story Federal style addition to the log house. The first identifiable occupant of the dwelling was Robert Stirling, whose name appears next to the house depicted on the 1850 and 1877 maps.<sup>3</sup> The latter map indicates that Shane had experienced significant growth over the third quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Stirling family had acquired a significant amount of land, including a combined total of 668 acres owned by John and James Stirling. It appears as though the community received its name during this period, for prior documentation suggests that the local postmaster, Arthur Shane lent his name to the crossroads village.<sup>4</sup> The 1877 atlas confirms that Arthur Shane occupied the tavern depicted in the 1850 atlas. By the late 1890s, John Stirling occupied the dwelling before the 1915 county atlas indicated that H.A. Wilson was the resident.<sup>5</sup> The Robert Stirling House remains a single-family dwelling.

<sup>1</sup> S. B. Clemens and C. E. Clemens, *From Marble Hill to Maryland Line: An Informal History of Northern Baltimore County* (np: C. E. Clemens and S. B. Clemens, 1976), p. 23.

<sup>2</sup> Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

<sup>3</sup> J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850); see also *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G.M. Hopkins, 1877).

<sup>4</sup> Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

<sup>5</sup> Baltimore County Historic Inventory; see also *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G.W. Bromley, 1915).

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA- 588

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.  
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.  
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.  
*Map of Baltimore County.* Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.  
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.  
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1 Acre  
Acreage of historical setting Unknown  
Quadrangle name Norrisville Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1780, the Robert Stirling House has been associated with the 1.17 acres of land known as tax parcel 160 of map 13 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

## 11. Form Prepared by

|                 |   |           |              |
|-----------------|---|-----------|--------------|
| name/title      | A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians |           |              |
| organization    | EHT Traceries, Incorporated                         | date      | May 17, 2001 |
| street & number | 1121 5th Street NW                                  | telephone | 202.393.1199 |
| city or town    | Washington  | state     | DC           |

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



BA-1554  
PINEGROVE CHURCH  
20105 KIRKWOOD SHOP ROAD  
WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

EA-588  
STIRLING HOUSE  
19709 OLD YORK ROAD  
WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

USGS Quad: NORRISVILLE  
Scale: 1:24,000



5A-0980  
LMONY HOUSE  
2632 WHITE HALL ROAD  
WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

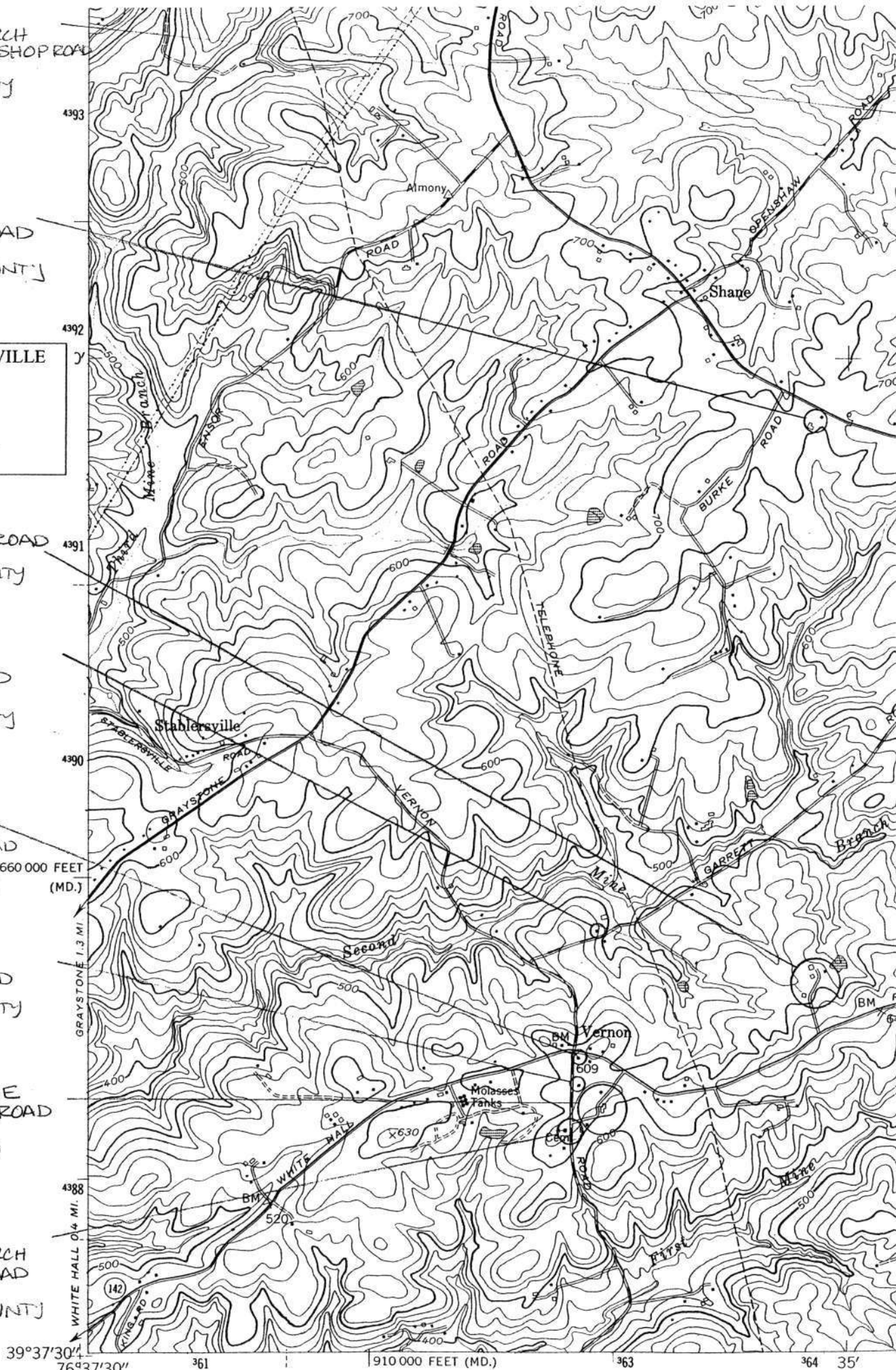
BA-1144  
GARRETT HOUSE  
2316 GARRETT ROAD  
WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0982  
JERNON SCHOOL  
8631 VERNON ROAD  
WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

3A-0981  
LARKSON HOUSE  
8419 VERNON ROAD  
WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

3A-0979  
HOSHALL HOUSE  
1323 WHITE HALL ROAD  
WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

EA-0947  
ON M.E. CHURCH  
18000 VERNON ROAD  
WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY





BA-588

19709 OLD YORK ROAD, WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

NE ELEVATION

1045





BA—588

19709 OLD YORK ROAD, WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

W. CORNER

2 of 5



BA-588

19709 OLD YORK ROAD, WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

SW ELEVATION

3 of 5





BA-588

19709 OLD YORK ROAD, WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

SE ELEVATION

4 of 5



BA-0588

19709 OLD YORK ROAD, WHITE HALL  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

OUTBUILDINGS

5 of 5

BA-588

**ROBERT STIRLING HOUSE (WALNUT SPRINGS ANGUS FARM) -**  
Before 1850 - Old York Road, 0.4 mile southeast of  
Shane. The land was called Piney Grove and in 1780  
belonged to Benjamin Shipley. Said to be the oldest  
house in the 7th District, this is a large brick  
structure with massive chimneys, dormer windows, and  
frame and clapboard wings. It was found under  
Stirling's name on 1850 map. Shown as John Stirling's  
in 1898 atlas and as H.A. Wilson's in 1915. Also a  
one-story stone kitchen, possibly the oldest segment.  
Reported in 1977 to have been sold for subdivision with  
the original house and 5 acres reserved.